

**REGULAR MEETING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
March 25, 2013**

GBE approved 4/8/13

A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Monday, March 25, 2013 in the Library Media Center located on the second floor of Griswold Middle School, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, CT. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman, Elizabeth Dorff.

PRESENT Elizabeth Dorff, BOE Chairman; Kimberly Brunelle, BOE Secretary; Laurie Sorder, Frank Everett, Yvonne Palasky, and Valerie Grills, BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT Paul K. Smith, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. John DiIorio, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment; Madeline Illinger, Director of Special Education & Services; Holly McCalla, Business Manager; Dr. Mark Frizzell, GHS Principal; Matthew Peel, GHS Associate Principal; Glenn LaBossiere, Campus Wide Activities and Athletic Director; Paul Berkel, GMS Interim Principal; Sarah Cary, GMS Assistant Principal; Susan Rourke, GES Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Assistant Principal; Deanna Edgar, GHS Student Council Representative; Jager Illingsworth and Matthew Spinelli, GMS Student Council Representatives; Terry Cholewa, GHS Staff Member; Ray Churchill, GHS Teacher; Erin Palonen, GMS Scheduling Committee Representative & Teacher; Donna Rossi, GES Instructional Coach for Reading and Language Arts; John Cormier, March's "*Employee of the Month*"; and Mary Beth Malin, Griswold's "*Volunteer of the Year*".

ABSENT Stuart Norman, Jr., Vice Chairman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Laurie Sorder
To approve the regular meeting minutes of March 11, 2013, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Thank you Note from Nicholas Faulise – The Board received a thank you note from Nick Faulise for the gift he received for scoring at the advanced level in all areas of the CAPT testing.

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- B. Thank you E-mail from Alyssa Moore – The Superintendent shared a thank you message from Alyssa Moore for the gift she received for scoring at the advanced level in all areas of the CAPT testing.
- C. Article/Scholarly Poor Often Overlook Top Colleges, Provided by Stuart Norman, Jr. – The Board received a copy of an article from the New London Day entitled, “*Scholarly Poor Often Overlook Top Colleges*”, which was provided by Stuart Norman, Jr.

HEARINGS & REQUESTS

None

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- A. CAS (Connecticut Association of Schools) Spring Leadership Conference Power Point Presentation – Terry Cholewa and members of the Student Council, specifically Deanna Edgar, Heidi Willard, Melina LaBossiere, Sydney Pepper, Tory Martel, Brittany Ellis, Roshan Patel, Milan Smith, Elijah Perry, Cole Bocciarelli, Kylie Flynn and Olivia Violette, shared highlights from their overnight Spring leadership conference they recently attended.
- B. Student Representative Report – Deanna Edgar updated the Board on the following activities at GHS:
- Tickets are now on sale for the spring musical performance “9 to 5”, which will take place from April 24 – 27. Tickets are \$11 each and can be purchased online at www.griswolddrama.com or at Griswold High School.
 - The *March Madness* dance took place last Friday evening and proceeds raised from the dance will be donated to a local charity to be determined by Student Council.
 - On March 27th, the National Honor Society will induct new members.
 - National Honor Society raised \$748 for the American Cancer Society by selling Daffodils over a three day period.
 - Students from GHS went to the CAS Spring Leadership Conference.
- C. GMS Student Council Update – GMS student council member Matthew Spinelli updated the BOE on all of the past projects and events at Griswold Middle School and Jager Illingsworth updated the BOE on future projects planned through the end of the school year.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Recognition of Griswold’s March “Employee of the Month” – J. Cormier – Superintendent Smith was honored to introduce John Cormier, Griswold High School psychologist, who was chosen as March’s recipient for the “*Employee of the Month*” award. He was presented with a certificate of achievement. Congratulations!

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- B. Recognition of Griswold’s “Volunteer of the Year” – Mary Beth Malin – Superintendent Smith was honored to present Mary Beth Malin as Griswold’s first “*Volunteer of the Year*” for 2013/14. Mr. Ray Churchill and Chamber Choir students honored Mrs. Malin with a song entitled: “*Thank You*”. This award will become an annual recognition on the part of the Griswold Public Schools. Congratulations!

- C. GMS Scheduling Committee Report for 2013/14 – GMS teacher Erin Palonen presented a new schedule for Griswold Middle School, which will commence at the start of the 2013-14 school year. The committee members who created this new schedule are as follows: Erin Palonen, Ty Roby, Laurie LaBossiere, Chuck Butremovic and Glenn LaBossiere. Mrs. Palonen answered questions of the Board.

- D. Review of Policy #5145, Students, Section 504: Civil and Legal Rights and Responsibilities, First Reading – The Superintendent reported that this policy was approved in the fall, however, it was sent on for legal opinions to the Office of Civil Rights in Boston, and they recommended a few changes to the policy beyond the advice that the Board was given by C.A.B.E. This is a first reading for the policy and will be added to the next BOE agenda for approval.

- E. Vote to Approve or Disapprove Resolution – The Superintendent reported that in order to complete our E-Rate application, the Board must vote to approve or disapprove the Resolution for Schools and Libraries Universal Services for 2013/14. The Superintendent recommends approving the resolution.

MOTION

By Kimberly Brunelle

Seconded by Laurie Sorder

To approve Resolution for Schools and Libraries Universal Services (E-Rate) for 2013/14. This resolution authorizes filing of the Form 471 applications for funding year 2013/14 and the payment of the applicant’s share upon approval of funding and receipt of services.

Motion unanimously carried.

F. Gift/Donations

- 1. None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

**REGULAR MEETING
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ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS**

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- A. Financial Update, 2012/13 – Business Manager Holly McCalla gave an update to the Board on the current status of the 2012/13 budget.
- B. Presentation on Analysis of Student Performance Data for GES and GMS – Donna Rossi, Instructional Coach for Reading & Language Arts, and Laurie LaBossiere, GMS teacher, gave a presentation on how data is analyzed and used at GES and GMS.
- C. CMT Pep Rally – GES Principal Susan Rourke gave the Board an update on a recent CMT pep rally.
- D. Thank you to Buttonwood Farm – GES Principal Susan Rourke informed the Board that Buttonwood Farm donated ice cream coupons for students in grades 3 and 4 at Griswold Elementary School who participated in the CMT Mastery testing. They provided 265 coupons to students for a free ice cream. Mrs. Rourke wanted to publicly thank Buttonwoods for their support.
- E. Preschool Screening – GES Principal Susan Rourke provided details on the recent preschool screenings that took place at Griswold Elementary School on Friday, March 22nd. There were approximately 76 students who registered with 69 children attending. The remaining 7 students will be invited to another screening on May 3rd.
- F. Family Reading Night – Assistant Principal Joseph Bordeau provided details on the PTO sponsored *Family Reading Night* that took place on March 18th.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations – The Superintendent reported on the resignation of Mike Flynn as the GHS Track & Field varsity girls’ assistant coach.

MOTION By Frank Everett
Seconded by Laurie Sorder
To accept the resignation of Mike Flynn, with regret, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Superintendent reported on the appointments of the following individuals: Kathleen Anderson, part-time child care aide in the Griswold Child Development Center; Mike Flynn, GHS Track & Field boys head coach; and Trish Zvingilas, GPS part-time Café food service provider .

MOTION By Frank Everett
Seconded by Valerie Grills
To approve the appointments of Kathleen Anderson, Mike Flynn, and Trish Zvingilas, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

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- B. Policy Update - The Superintendent updated the Board on the recent work of the Policy sub-committee. He reported that by May, the 9000 series of Board policies will come to the BOE for review and approval.
- C. GMS Principal Search Update – The Superintendent updated the BOE on the search for a new principal for GMS.
- D. Tiered Tuition Discussion – The Superintendent asked the BOE for permission to begin dialogue with tuition towns on tiered tuition rates.

MOTION

By Frank Everett
Seconded by Valerie Grills
To permit the Superintendent to have dialogue with sending schools on tiered tuition.
Motion unanimously carried.

- E. *Personnel Matter – This item was referred to executive session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Building Committee – Frank Everett updated the Board on the work of the building committee.

OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MOTION

By Kimberly Brunelle
Seconded by Frank Everett
To move into executive session at 7:45 p.m. for discussion of a personnel matter.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:42 p.m.

MOTION

By Frank Everett
Seconded by Kimberly Brunelle
To adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes recorded by: Robin Drobiak